

**REMARKS**

By this Amendment the dependency of claim 21 has been changed. New claims 24-29 have been added. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 6-22 and 24-29 will be pending.

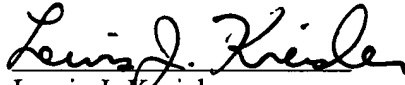
New claims 24-27 parallel claims 19-22, except that where claim 19 recites that the agent is substantially pure, claim 24 recites that the agent is present in a mammal other than a mouse. Claims 28 and 29 recite that the mammal is a human. Support for new claims 24-29 may be found, *inter alia*, in original claims 19-22 and on page 31, lines 13-21. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid is metabolized in mice, rats, dogs and humans to 4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenyl)-4-hydroxybutanoic acid and 3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)-phenylacetic acid. The administration of 4-(3-(2,6-Dimethylbenzyloxy)phenyl)-4-oxobutyric acid to treat certain metabolic disorders is disclosed in WO 02/100341 (Wellstat Therapeutics Corp.).

A fee sheet is enclosed to cover the additional claims fee. No fee, other than the additional claims fee, is believed necessary in connection with the filing of this

Amendment. If any additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1677.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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